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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8776

INFO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 5803

RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 0559

BT

UNCLAS TOKYO 07793

EO 120651 IN/A

TAGS: PEPR, LY, JA, UR, US, IS, XF

SUBJECT: KHADAFY APRIL 24 ASAHI EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

1. APRIL 28 EDITION OF ASAHI SHIMBUN CARRIES EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH LIBYAN CHIEF OF STATE COLONEL MOAMMAR KHADAFY GRANTED TO ASAHI NEWSPAPER AND TV CORRESPONDENTS IN TRIPOLI JUST PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR MOSCOW.

2. KHADAFY IS QUOTED AS SAYING LIBYA WAS READY TO BEGIN A DIALOGUE WITH THE US AT ANYTIME AND THAT HE EXPECTED REAGAN ADMINISTRATION TO BE BETTER THAN CARTER ADMINISTRATION, WHICH JEOPARDIZED ARAB NATIONAL RIGHTS BY CAMP DAVID ACCORDS. AT SAME TIME, KHADAFY CRITICIZED USG FOR BEING UNDER INFLUENCE OF ZIONISTS, FOR SEEKING TO ESTABLISH OVERSEAS MILITARY BASES AND FOR INTERVENING IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

3. KHADAFY SAID PURPOSE OF HIS FIRST SOVIET VISIT SINCE 1976 WAS TO DISCUSS UNSETTLED WORLD SITUATION.

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RELATIONS BETWEEN LIBERATION ORGANIZATIONS AND SOVIET UNION AND MEASURES AGAINST THE US, WHICH, HE SAID, WAS BECOMING MORE AGGRESSIVE. HE REFUSED TO LABEL SOVIET PRESENCE IN SOMALIA, ETHIOPIA OR SOUTH YEMEN AS ESTABLISHMENT OF MILITARY BASES IN THE THIRD WORLD AND SAID USSR, UNLIKE US, DID NOT TAKE SIDE OF REACTIONARY GOVERNMENTS, SUPPORT FEUDALISM OR EXPLOITATION OR MAINTAIN OVERSEAS BASES. HE ALSO SAID THAT LIBYA WOULD PROBABLY REJECT ANY SOVIET REQUEST FOR MILITARY BASES IN LIBYA AND WOULD OPPOSE USSR SHOULD IT BECOME IMPERIALIST NATION LIKE US.

4. KHADAFY THOUGHT THAT AS LONG AS EAST-WEST BALANCE PERSISTED, THERE WOULD BE PEACE, BUT HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THIRD WORLD WAR COULD BEGIN OVER ISRAEL.

5. CALLING LIBYAN FOREIGN POLICY "POSITIVE NEUTRALITY," HE REPLIED TO QUESTION ON AFGHANISTAN BY SAYING LIBYA OPPOSED INTERVENTION BY ANY FOREIGN FORCES AND THAT ONLY AFGHANS COULD GOVERN AFGHANISTAN, BUT ADDED THAT AFGHANISTAN'S REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT HAD NOT SAID IT WAS SUBJECT OF AGGRESSION.

6. KHADAFY ALSO SAID THAT JAPAN AND LIBYA COULD COOPERATE MORE FULLY IF IT WERE NOT FOR RESTRAINTS PLACED ON JAPAN BY THE US. MANSFIELD

END OF MESSAGE

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